

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DETECTION AND QUANTITATION APPROACHES AND USES IN CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA) PROGRAMS

1. **Committee's Official Designation (Title):**

Federal Advisory Committee on Detection and Quantitation Approaches and Uses in Clean Water Act (CWA) Programs

2. **Authority:**

This charter establishes the Federal Advisory Committee on Detection and Quantitation Approaches and Uses in CWA Programs (FACDQ) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2 § 9 (c). FACDQ supports the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in monitoring and reporting chemical pollutants under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The FACDQ is in the public interest and supports EPA in performing its duties and responsibilities.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities:**

EPA approves analytical methods (i.e., test procedures) used for monitoring and reporting chemical pollutants under the CWA. EPA's analytical methods specify detection limits to determine if a pollutant is present. Quantitation limits describe the concentration of a pollutant that can be measured with a known level of confidence. States, Tribes and EPA Regions that administer and enforce permit limits on direct discharges into water often use these values as reporting and compliance limits. Additionally, States and localities in administering and enforcing pretreatment programs for indirect discharges use these values. The major objectives of the FACDQ will be to provide advice and recommendations on approaches for the development of detection and quantitation procedures and uses of these procedures in CWA programs.

4. **Description of Committee's Duties:**

The duties of FACDQ are solely advisory in nature.

5. Official(s) to Whom the Committee Reports:

FACDQ will submit advice and recommendations and report to the EPA Administrator, through the Director, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water.

6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support:

EPA will be responsible for financial and administrative support. Within EPA, this support will be provided by the Office of Water.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Work Years:

The estimated annual operating cost of the FACDQ is \$700K in FY05 and \$350K in FY06 which includes 2.5 person-years of support in FY05 and 2.0 person-years of support in FY06.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

FACDQ expects to meet approximately four (4) times a year. Meetings may occur approximately every three (3) months or as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses when determined necessary and appropriate. The DFO will be a full-time, or permanent part-time, employee of EPA. The DFO or a designee will be present at all meetings, and each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved in advance by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when he or she determines it is in the public interest to do so.

As required by FACA, FACDQ will hold open meetings unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with subsection c of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code. Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the Committee as time permits, and file comments with the FACDQ.

9. Duration and Termination:

FACDQ will be examined annually and will exist until the EPA Deputy Administrator determines the Committee is no longer needed. This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After the initial two-year period, the charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of FACA (5 U.S.C. App. 2 § 14).

10. Member Composition:

FACDQ will be composed of approximately twenty (20) members. Most members, with the exception of members who are Federal officials, will serve as representatives of non-Federal interests.

In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates from Federal, State, local and Tribal governments, environmental/public interest groups, industry, laboratories, and the general public.

11. Subgroups:

FACDQ, with EPA's approval, may form subcommittees or workgroups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the chartered committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the FACDQ for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee nor can they report directly to the EPA.

May 9, 2005
Agency Approval Date

May 9, 2005
GSA Consultation Date

May 31, 2005
Date Filed with Congress